

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this Application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 4-6, 9-11, 14-16, and 19-21 are pending in the present Application. Claims 1, 6, 11 and 16 are amended by the present amendment. Support for the amended claims can be found in the original specification, claims and drawings.¹ No new matter has been added.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1 and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph; Claims 1, 5, 6, 10, 11, 15, 16, 20 and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Prust (U.S. Patent No. 6,714,968) in view of Burson et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,405,245, hereinafter Burson), Coates et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,952,737, hereinafter Coates), and Applicants Background section (hereinafter, “Applicants’ Background”); and Claims 4, 9, 14 and 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Prust, Burson, Coates and Applicants’ Background and Hayes, Jr. et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,339,826, hereinafter Hayes).

With regard to the rejection of Claims 1 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, these claims are amended to remove the phrase “may be.” Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of Claims 1 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, be withdrawn.

The outstanding Office Action rejected Claims 1, 5, 6, 10, 11, 15, 16, and 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as unpatentable over Prust in view of Burson, Coates and Applicant’s Background. In response to this rejection, Applicants respectfully submit that amended independent Claims 1, 6, 11 and 16 recite novel features clearly not taught or rendered obvious by the applied references.

¹ E.g., specification, Figs. 13-22.

Amended Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*, an information processing device, including:

. . . connection means for allowing each of said automatic upload programs to perform connection processing automatically to said access point in the said server via actuation of a corresponding upload icon; and
transfer means for writing the content file to be distributed to the exclusive storage area automatically when connection processing is performed and for transferring the associated control file controlling distribution of the transferred content file from the server, the control file including the condition data set up through the interface and user information data related to the user registration,
wherein a genre of the content file, a codec used to encode and/or decode the content file, a schedule associated with the distribution of the content file, a commercial setting associated with the content file and a content identification corresponding to the content file are included in the associated control file and are edited via the interface and transmitted to the server.

Independent Claims 6, 11 and 16, while directed to alternative embodiments, are amended to recite substantially similar features. Accordingly, the remarks and arguments presented below are applicable to each of amended independent Claims 1, 6, 11 and 16.

Turning to the applied references, Prust describes a computing environment 200, in which client computers 205 access a storage network 220. The storage network includes individual storage areas 225, which can be assigned to different users.² Upon registration, the storage network allocates a specific storage area to a user. Access methods include utilizing a user interface of a local operating system of the client computer. In another embodiment, the user-designated storage area may be accessed by a web browser.³

Burson describes a method for automated access of personal information. API engine 240 is provided for implementing a “spring board technology” such that an access point of

² Prust at col. 4, ll. 52-63.

³ Id. at col. 5, ll. 28-31.

the web document can be quickly linked to a user. In this way, tedious web navigation can be avoided.⁴

Coates describes a network storage system includes a virtual file system ("VFS") 50 that manages the files of a network storage system 90, and a storage center 70 that stores the files. The VFS and the storage center are separated, such that a client accesses the VFS to conduct file system operations and the client accesses the storage center to upload/download files.⁵

Conversely, in an exemplary embodiment of the Applicants' claimed advancement, an information processing device is provided and includes utilization of automatic upload programs to perform connection processing automatically to an access point in a server via actuation of a corresponding upload icon and to provide an interface for editing condition data to manage distribution of an associated content file. A data file and the associated control file are transferred automatically upon connection processing. The control file includes condition data set up through the interface and user information data related to the user registration. The control file includes condition data which includes parameters relating to "a genre of the content file, a codec used to encode and/or decode the content file, a schedule associated with the distribution of the content file, a commercial setting associated with the content file and a content identification corresponding to the content file." These parameters are included in the associated control file and may be edited via the interface such that edits made to the schedule are updated to the server.

The cited portion of Coates⁶, however, merely describes the generation of storage resource locators (SLR), which include a time-out parameter permitting a client to specify a

⁴ Burson at col. 14, l. 44-col. 15, l. 18.

⁵ Coates at Abstract and Fig. 1.

⁶ Id., col. 7, ll. 47-53 and col. 27, ll. 11-40.

period of time that the SLR is valid to access a file. Coates, however, fails to teach or suggest that “a genre of the content file, a codec used to encode and/or decode the content file, a schedule associated with the distribution of the content file, a commercial setting associated with the content file and a content identification corresponding to the content file are included in the associated control file and are edited via the interface and transmitted to the server,” as recited in amended independent Claim 1.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of Claims 1, 5, 6, 10, 11, 15, 16, and 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 be withdrawn.

The outstanding Official Action rejected Claims 4, 9, 14, and 19 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as unpatentable over Prust, Burson, Coates, and Applicant’s Background, in further view of Hayes. As discussed above, none of Prust, Burson, Coates or Applicants’ Background, either alone or in combination, suggests all of the elements of the Applicants’ claims, and Hayes does not remedy the deficiency discussed above. As such, Applicants respectfully submit that a *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been established. Therefore, Hayes does not anticipate, or render obvious, the subject matter defined by the present claims when considered alone or in combination with Prust, Burson, Coates and/or Applicants’ Background.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of Claims 4, 9, 14, and 19 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 be withdrawn.

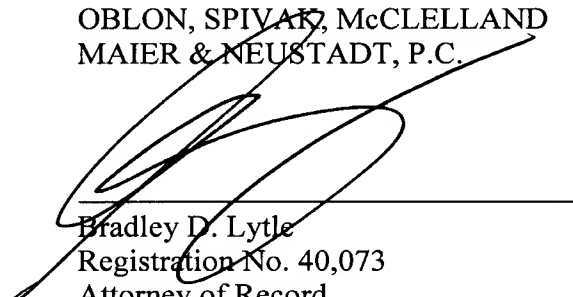
Consequently, in view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present Application, including Claims 1, 4-6, 9-11, 14-16, and 19-21, is patently distinguished over the prior art, in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested at an early date.

Respectfully submitted,

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